

**STANDARDS PRESENTATION  
TO  
CALIFORNIA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

Attachment No. 1

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PROPOSED STATE STANDARD,  
TITLE 8, CHAPTER 4

Amend Section 1632 of the Construction Safety Orders as follows:

§ 1632. Floor, Roof, and Wall Openings to Be Guarded.

(a) This section shall apply to temporary or emergency conditions where there is danger of employees or materials falling through floor, roof, or wall openings, or from stairways or runways.

(b)(1) Floor, roof and skylight openings shall be guarded by ~~a standard~~ either temporary railings and toeboards or by covers.

NOTE: Requirements for guarding existing skylights are found in Section 3212(e) of the General Industry Safety Orders.

(2) Temporary railing and toeboards shall meet the requirements of Sections 1620 and 1621. In general, the railing shall be provided on all exposed sides, except at entrances to stairways.

(3) Coverings shall be capable of safely supporting the greater of ~~the weight of a 200-pound person~~ 400 pounds or twice the weight of the employees, equipment and materials that may be imposed on any one square foot area of the cover at any time. Coverings shall be secured in place to prevent accidental removal or displacement, and shall bear a pressure sensitized, painted, or stenciled sign with legible letters not less than one inch high, stating: "Opening—Do Not Remove." Markings of chalk or keel shall not be used. ~~In general, the railing shall be provided on all exposed sides, except at entrances to stairways.~~

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NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.

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PROPOSED STATE STANDARD,  
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Amend Section 3212 of the General Industry Safety Orders as follows:

§ 3212. Floor Openings, Floor Holes, Skylights and Roofs.

(a)(1) Every floor and roof opening shall be guarded by a cover, a guardrail, or equivalent on all open sides ~~(except at entrance to stairway or ladder way)~~. While the cover is not in place, the ~~floor~~ openings shall be constantly attended by someone or shall be protected by guardrails. Toeboards shall be installed around the edges at ~~permanent floor~~ openings where persons may pass below the opening.

EXCEPTION: Stairway or ladder way entrances.

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) ~~The construction of floor and roof opening covers shall be of materials that meets the strength requirements of the surrounding floor~~ capable of safely supporting the greater of 400 pounds or twice the weight of the employees, equipment and materials that may be imposed on any one square foot area of the cover at any time. Covers shall be secured in place to prevent accidental removal or displacement, and shall bear a pressure sensitized, painted, or stenciled sign with legible letters not less than one inch high, stating: "Opening—Do Not Remove." Markings of chalk or keel shall not be used.

\* \* \* \* \*

(e) Any employee approaching within 6 feet of any skylight shall be protected from falling through the skylight or skylight opening by any one of the following methods:

(1) Skylight screens. The design, construction, and installation of skylight screens shall be of such construction and mounting that they are capable of withstanding a load of at least 200 pounds applied perpendicularly at any one area on the screen meet the strength requirements equivalent to that of covers specified in subsection (b) above. They shall also be of such design, construction and mounting that under ordinary design loads and impacts, they will not deflect downward sufficiently to break the glass below them. The construction shall be of grillwork, with openings not more than 4 inches long x 4 inches or of slatwork with openings not more than 2 inches wide with length unrestricted, or of other material of equal strength and similar configuration, or (Title 24, Part 2, Section 2-3402)

(2) ~~Where existing skylights are not guarded in accordance with subsection (e)(1), and where there is a need for any employee to approach within 6 feet of any skylight, employee(s) shall be provided with fall protection for the duration of fall exposure by:~~

~~(A) The use of an approved safety belt and lanyard securely anchored to a solid structure, or  
(B) Temporary covers capable of sustaining the weight of a 200 pound person installed over the skylight, or~~

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(C) Temporary 42-inch railing enclosures, temporary warning lines, or cones installed/positioned no closer than 24 inches from the skylight curb.

Guardrails meeting the requirements of Section 3209, or

(3) The use of a personal fall protection system meeting the requirements of Section 1670 of the Construction Safety Orders, or

(4) Covers meeting the requirements of subsection (b) installed over the skylights, or

(5) Temporary warning lines installed not less than 6 feet from the curb of the skylight or roof or floor openings. For workers between warning lines and skylight, or roof or floor openings, subsections (e)(1) through (e)(4) shall apply. When used, warning lines shall consist of ropes, wires, or equivalent materials and supporting stanchions as follows:

(A) The supporting stanchions (portable or fixed) supporting the warning lines shall be designed and installed or positioned to minimize tip over or displacement under normal working conditions.

(B) Each line shall be flagged or otherwise clearly marked at not more than 6 – foot intervals with high-visibility material.

(C) Each line shall be rigged and supported in such a way that its lowest point (including sag) is not less than 39 inches from working level/working area and its highest point not more than 45 inches.

(D) Each line as installed shall have a minimum breaking strength of 200 pounds.

EXCEPTION: When the work is of short duration and limited exposure such as measuring, roof inspection, electrical/mechanical equipment inspection, etc., and the time involved in rigging and installing the safety devices required in subsections (e)(21)(A) through (e)(24)(C) equal or exceed the performance of the designated tasks of measuring, roof inspection, electrical/mechanical equipment inspection, etc.; these provisions may be temporarily suspended provided that adequate risk control is recognized and maintained.

(f) Access shall not be permitted on glazed surfaces such as roofs, vaults, canopies, or skylights glazed with transparent or translucent materials unless an engineer currently registered in the State of California and experienced in the design of such glazed structures has certified that the surface will support all anticipated loads. Employees working on such surfaces shall be protected by a fall protection system meeting the requirements of Section 1670 of the Construction Safety Orders.

(g) When glazed surfaces cannot be safely accessed for maintenance in accordance with subsection (f), scaffolds, catwalks, rolling ladders, platforms or other methods of safe access shall be provided.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.